

**REMARKS**

Amendments to claims 1, 3, and 22 are for the purpose of clarifying what Applicant regards as the invention. Amendment to claim 2 is to bring this claim into conformity with the language of its base claim. No new matter has been added.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 1 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as allegedly being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements. Claim 1 has been amended to remove the alleged deficiency.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,991,646 (“Frank”). Applicant respectfully notes that in order to sustain a claim rejection under § 102, each of the claimed elements must be found, either expressly or inherently, in the cited reference.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a region of a microphone having a lowest sensitivity is aimed at a speaker when a microphone boom is located in either said first position or said second position. Frank does not disclose or suggest such limitation. Rather, Frank discloses a microphone arm 102 that is rotatably coupled to a casing 108 (column 3, lines 18-20). There is nothing in Frank that discloses or suggests a microphone region having a lowest sensitivity, much less, a microphone region having a lowest sensitivity that is aimed at a speaker when a microphone boom is located in either a first or a second position. For at least the foregoing reason, claim 1 and its dependent claims are believed allowable over Frank.

III. Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Frank in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0063456 (“Griffin”).

Claims 3 and 22 recite a unidirectional microphone. As is known to one of ordinary skill in the art, a unidirectional microphone is significantly different from an omni-directional microphone and bi-directional microphone in that a unidirectional microphone has only one axis of maximal sensitivity. On the other hand, an omni-directional microphone has the same sensitivity in all directions, and a bi-directional microphone has two axes of maximal sensitivity. See “Microphone Basics - Pickup Patterns” by Stephen Mackey, from the notaviva.com website, and “Polar Patterns Explained” from the dolphinmusic.co.uk website, attached herewith as Exhibits A & B..

Frank and Griffin do not disclose or suggest a *unidirectional* microphone. According to the Office Action, column 1, lines 32-33 of Frank allegedly discloses an “unidirectional microphone.” However, the cited passage merely discloses a microphone that is “sensitive,” and therefore, does not disclose or suggest an unidirectional microphone. Griffin also does not disclose a unidirectional microphone, and therefore, fails to make up the deficiency present in Frank. For at least the foregoing reason, claims 3 and 22, and their respective dependent claims, are believed allowable over Frank, Griffin, and their combination.

Claim 3 has been amended to recite a region of a microphone having a lowest sensitivity is aimed at a speaker when a microphone boom is located in any of said plurality of positions. Claim 22 has been amended to recite similar limitations. As discussed with reference to claim 1, Frank does not disclose or suggest such limitations. Griffin also does not disclose or suggest the

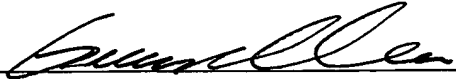
above limitations, and therefore, fails to make up the deficiencies present in Frank. Since neither Frank nor Griffin discloses or suggests the above limitations, they cannot be combined to form the resulting subject matter of claims 3 and 22. For this additional reason, claims 3 and 22, and their respective dependent claims, are believed allowable over Frank, Griffin, and their combination.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing, all claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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